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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bruce C. Johnson	Group Art Unit: 3312 Examiner: FEB 19 1998 GROUP 3300
Serial No. : 08/874,781	
Filed : June 13, 1997	
For : NASAL DILATOR	
Docket No. : C348.12-0013	

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19 97  
[Signature]  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Prior to an Examiner's first Action in the above-identified application, please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1.

Please rewrite the following claims as indicated:

2. (Twice Amended) [The nasal dilator of claim 1 wherein the truss member includes:] A nasal dilator for preventing outer wall tissue of nasal passages of a nose from drawing in during breathing, comprising:

a flexible truss member having an initial state absent flexure thereof, the truss member including:

a flexible strip of material defining [the] first and second end regions and [the] an intermediate segment with the first end region adapted to engage the outer wall tissue of a first nasal passage at a first side of the flexible strip of material and with the second end region adapted to

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